Legal
Services
Society

British Columbia
www.lss.bc.ca

News Release

September 19, 2008

Terrace lawyers' achievements recognized

LSS is an independent, non-profit organization that has provided legal aid to people with low incomes in BC since 1979.

Legal representation is available for serious family issues (e.g., involving child apprehension matters or domestic violence) and serious criminal problems. It is also available for some immigration, mental health law, and prison law matters.

Legal advice is available at most courts through duty counsel and by telephone through LawLINE and the Brydges Line (both are province-wide toll-free lines).

Legal information is available through LawLINE, plain language publications, and Internet services, including the Electronic Law Library, the Family Law in British Columbia, the LSS, and the LawLINK websites. (See www.lss.bc.ca for most of our publications, our catalogue, and website links.)

*To contact the **LSS Call Centre and LawLINE**, dial: (604) 408-2172 (Lower Mainland) or 1-866-577-2525 (toll free from outside the Lower Mainland).*

Vancouver, BC – The Legal Services Society (LSS) presented awards to Scott Mulder and Martin Griffith-Zahner at a recognition event held September 19 to acknowledge local lawyers' work on behalf of legal aid clients.

"These lawyers have combined their finely honed legal skills with their commitment to access to justice to help low-income people resolve their legal problems," said Executive Director Mark Benton. "Their dedication is a cornerstone of legal aid, and the society is pleased to show its appreciation for their contributions. The services they provide are representative of the legal aid work done by hundreds of lawyers across BC."

LSS board member John Hogg, QC presented the awards to Mulder and Griffith-Zahner. The awards were given to acknowledge individual lawyers' achievements and outstanding service over the years.

Scott Mulder was called to the bar in 1998. He became an associate at Warner Bandstra Brown, where he articled. He started with family and criminal cases and has continued practicing in those areas. Scott has always taken legal aid cases, even the difficult ones, providing quality service to his clients and getting fair results.

Called to the bar in 1989, **Martin Griffith-Zahner** articled in Toronto and Vancouver with the private bar and the Ontario Labour Relations Board. In 1990 he moved to Prince Rupert and worked as a staff lawyer for Legal Services Society. Since 1992 he has been a sole practitioner, focusing on criminal and family/CFCSA litigation, along with some personal injury files. Legal aid work is a large portion of his practice. He is known for taking on cases others decline and going the extra mile for his clients.

Criteria used in the process of selecting lawyers for recognition include their willingness to take on difficult cases, their years and quality of legal aid service, and their community service.

In partnership with lawyers who provide legal aid, LSS develops quality assurance initiatives to ensure people with low incomes receive high calibre service. These measures promote best practices through education and other means. Recognition of lawyers' contributions is one part of this work.

The quality assurance program began in 2001 with funding from the Law Foundation of BC.

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